IN THE CLAIMS

1. [Presently amended] A system for preventing the discharge of a live ammunition cartridge creating pressure when fired and including a bullet portion normally propelled by said pressure from a ~~firearm~~ rifle or machine gun having a barrel ~~portion~~ with a longitudinal axis within which the ammunition cartridge is loaded and two sides, comprising:

- the barrel ~~portion~~ of the ~~firearm~~ rifle or machine gun having ~~one or more~~ at least two apertures formed therein, with each of said at least two apertures being aligned with a portion of said live ammunition cartridge and said longitudinal axis of said barrel; and
- said live ammunition cartridge and said barrel being cooperatively associated, so as to vent said pressure created by firing said ammunition cartridge through said barrel apertures and thereby deprive said live ammunition cartridge of sufficient pressure to propel said bullet ~~portion~~ along said longitudinal axis of said barrel and retaining said bullet ~~portion~~ in said barrel.

2. [Presently amended] The invention according to Claim 1 wherein said ~~one or more~~ at least two apertures are aligned substantially perpendicularly to said portion of said live ammunition cartridge.

3. [Original] The invention according to Claim 1 wherein said portion of said live ammunition cartridge is the weakest portion of said live ammunition cartridge.

4. [Presently amended] A method for preventing the discharge of a live ammunition cartridge having a bullet ~~portion~~ and creating pressure when discharged from a ~~firearm~~ rifle or machine gun having a barrel ~~portion~~ with a longitudinal axis and two sides, comprising:

- forming ~~one or more~~ at least two apertures in said barrel substantially above a portion of said ammunition cartridge; and,
- firing said ~~firearm~~ rifle or machine gun so as to vent the pressure[[s]] created by firing of the live ammunition cartridge through said at least two apertures formed in said barrel ~~portion~~ and thereby depriving the ~~cartridge~~ bullet of sufficient pressure to propel said ~~cartridge~~ bullet along said perpendicular axis of said barrel and retaining said cartridge ~~bullet portion~~ in said barrel.

5. [Original] The invention according to Claim 4 wherein said apertures are formed in said barrel at an angle substantially perpendicular to said portion of said ammunition cartridge.

6. [Original] The invention according to Claim 4 wherein said portion of live ammunition cartridge is the weakest portion of said ammunition cartridge.

7. [New] The invention according to Claim 4 which further comprises the step of retaining said cartridge in the rifle or machine gun so as to prevent an additional cartridge from being discharged without manually removing the discharged cartridge.

8. [New] The invention according to Claim 4 wherein said at least two apertures comprises six apertures.

9. [New] The invention according to Claim 8 wherein said six apertures are equally spaced about said barrel.

10. [New] The invention according to Claim 1 wherein said at least two apertures are located on said barrel such that the pressure is dispersed to at least one of the two sides of said rifle or machine gun.

11. [New] The invention according to Claim 4 wherein said barrel comprises a top, a bottom and two sides and wherein said at least two apertures are located on said barrel such that the pressure is dispersed at least partially to at least one of said two sides of said rifle or machine gun.

12. [New] The invention of Claim 1 wherein said at least two apertures comprises six apertures spaced about said barrel.

13. [New] A modified rifle barrel for preventing the discharge of a live ammunition cartridge creating pressure when the rifle is fired and including a bullet normally propelled by said pressure down the rifle barrel, comprising:

six apertures spaced about the rifle barrel and aligned with a portion of said live ammunition cartridge; and

said live ammunition cartridge and said barrel being cooperatively associated so as to vent said pressure created by firing said live ammunition cartridge through said six apertures and thereby deprive said live ammunition cartridge of sufficient pressure to propel said bullet through said barrel.

14. [New] The invention according to Claim 13 wherein said six apertures are aligned substantially perpendicularly to said portion of said live ammunition cartridge.

15. [New] The invention according to Claim 13 wherein said portion of said live ammunition cartridge is the weakest portion of said live ammunition cartridge.

16. [New] A method for preventing the discharge of a live ammunition cartridge having a bullet and creating pressure when discharged from a firearm other than a handgun, the barrel of the firearm having a top, a bottom and two sides, the method comprising the steps of:

forming six apertures in said barrel such that said six aperture such that they are aligned with portions of said live ammunition cartridge; and,

firing said firearm, wherein the step of firing said firearm forces said pressure built up in said cartridge to blow out said portions of said live ammunition cartridge to permit pressure to be vented through said apertures and thereby prevent the bullet from being discharged from the firearm, wherein at least part of the pressure is vented along said two sides of said barrel, and wherein at least part of said portions of said live ammunition cartridge that are blown out enter at least one of said six apertures to retain said live ammunition cartridge in said firearm and prevent an additional cartridge from being loaded into said firearm.

17. [New] The method of claim 16 wherein the firearm is a rifle.

18. [New] The method of claim 16 wherein the firearm is a machine gun.